

Date: Sat, 9 Jan 93 04:30:24 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #41
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Sat, 9 Jan 93 Volume 93 : Issue 41

Today's Topics:

ARRL 10 meter preamp help?
Closed repeaters
Green stamp tidbits
Logging software
NEED: Manual for SStandard C-500 HT
New HAM - related directory at nic.funet.fi
old QST's and old QSL cards (2 msgs)
PC repeater controller (WAS Re: WANTED: Repeater controller comments)

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Fri, 8 Jan 1993 20:45:08 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!hplextra!hpl-opus!hpnmrla!alanb@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: ARRL 10 meter preamp help?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, little@nuts2u.enet.dec.com (nuts2u::little) writes:

>I just finished building a bread board version of the dual gate MOSFET 10
>meter preamp described in the ARRL Handbook. My problem is that I can't
>get the thing to function properly. At the moment it operates more as an
>attenuator than an amplifier.

>I can peak the variable capacitor, but find very little change in signal
>strength when adjusting the slug tuned coil. The coil is one I wound
>myself on a form a salvaged from another coil.

If you can get a peak by tuning the capacitor, then that implies that the coil must be the right value. Is the MOSFET drawing current? Measure the voltage drop across the 100 ohm drain resistor. You ought to measure at least a few tenth's of a volt drop across it. Check the Gate 2 voltage. It should be about 2/3 of the power supply voltage. If not, either the FET is bad (shorted gate) or the bias network is wrong.

MOSFET's are very static-sensitive. It's quite possible you punctured a gate when you installed it. The best technique is to wrap several turns of fine stranded wire around the leads before installation (and remove the wire when the part is soldered into the circuit.)

In summary: check the DC operation of the circuit first. Then check the coils and capacitors.

AL N1AL

Date: 9 Jan 93 01:29:34 GMT
From: uswnvg!nv2.uswnvg.com!rkolsen@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Closed repeaters
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Does anyone out there remember Saturday Night at the 94? Things have sure gotten boring since the repeater wars are now history. Bring back the 70's!!

de WA7CNP oops N6NR/7

Date: 9 Jan 93 02:41:07 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Green stamp tidbits
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I received the following note on the back of a QSL from 0D5/SP7LSE (I may have the wrong root call, I'm doing it from memory):

"Polish bank does not accept old worn dollar bills. Please remember for future cards."

My local bank usually doesn't have new dollar bills. But they stock up on them during the holidays, and they had a few packages of crisp new

serial-number-ordered
green stamps left.

73 Mike N6MZ mikemr@microsoft.com

Date: 8 Jan 1993 19:38:07 -0500
From: news.mtholyoke.edu!mhc.mtholyoke.edu!pryack@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Logging software
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

What MS-DOS logging programs do people like, and why? The one I've been using for the last year doesn't know how to sort without corrupting the QSO data (ouch!).

--
Paul R. Ryack, M.D., M.P.H. |pryack@mhc.mtholyoke.edu
|W1ETH@K1MEA.#WMA.MA.USA.NOAM
There are certain sections of |fax: (413)532-9141
New York, Major, that I wouldn't|
advise you to try and invade. |

Date: 8 Jan 93 20:14:54 MDT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!hellgate.utah.edu!cc.usu.edu!scott@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: NEED: Manual for SStandard C-500 HT
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

HELP!!!!!! I bought a great HT from a Japanese friend (Standard C500) and the manual is written only in Japanese. I called Standard and they said they don't have that manual. Does anyone have a manual that they would photocopy for me (I'll pay for it)????

---Scott---

Date: Fri, 8 Jan 1993 23:29:01 GMT
From: mcsun!news.funet.fi!hydra!klaava!tkivivuo@uunet.uu.net
Subject: New HAM - related directory at nic.funet.fi
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

New ham directory at nic.funet.fi :

/pub/ham/schema - directory for schematics.

Any schemas which may be useful others, may and should be uploaded to there.

Specially, ham related schemas, like preamplifiers, power amplifiers etc. The format of file, should be PCX, TIFF, GIF, EPS, PS or ASCII. OrCad or EasyPC files are ok too, but I'am not sure how common those are.

/Toni

--
Tkivivuo@nic.funet.fi OH2LNM
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Toni Kivivuori	Hamradio, feel the real thing
InterNet : Tkivivuo@kruuna.helsinki.fi	Speed kills - Use DOS!
BitNet : Tkivivuori@finuha	" What whistling comes, will
Packet : OH2LNM @ OH2NJR.FIN.EU	whistling go " (c) Doppler

Date: Fri, 8 Jan 1993 20:47:38 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!hplextra!hpl-opus!hpnmrla!alanb@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: old QST's and old QSL cards
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, aargyle@sobeco.com (a.argyle) writes:

>My grandfather was a radio amateur (he got his license in 1913). I have a collection of QST's from the 1920's and a bunch of QSL cards from the same period. Are these worth anything? Many of the Qst's still have their covers but most have either lost their covers or the covers are loose.

The QST's are certainly worth something. The QSL cards probably not.

AL N1AL

Date: 8 Jan 93 19:39:54 CST
From: timbuk.cray.com!walter.cray.com!craywr!wws@uunet.uu.net
Subject: old QST's and old QSL cards
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <14570580@hpnmrla.sr.hp.com>, alanb@hpnmrla.sr.hp.com (Alan Bloom) writes:

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|>

|> The QST's are certainly worth something. The QSL cards probably not.

There is some sort of QSL preservation outfit that advertises in some of the magazines. They want old QSL cards, but I don't think they actually pay for them. I can't think of the name of the organization now, but they had an ad in the 1991 and 1992 World Radio and TV Handbooks.

Walt

Walt Spector
(wws@renaissance.cray.com)
Sunnyvale, California

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Date: 8 Jan 1993 21:23:09 -0600
From: sdd.hp.com!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!moe.ksu.ksu.edu!matt.ksu.ksu.edu!
news@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: PC repeater controller (WAS Re: WANTED: Repeater controller comments)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

phr@telebit.com (Paul Rubin) writes:

>Why can't someone make a repeater controller out of a simple
>personal computer (286 class), with maybe a relay box controlled
>by the parallel port, and perhaps a Soundblaster to do voice ID
>and sample the audio input for tone decoding etc? What do those
>fancy repeater controller boxes get for you besides nice packaging
>with RF shielding (admittedly worth something)?

There have been articles in ham magazines about using a PC for a repeater controller. (I saw one in 73 several years ago). There are several disadvantages.

First is durability. My site ranges in temperature from 30 degrees F winter and over 100 degrees F in the summer. I don't think many of the PC components could take that (disk drives, power supplies, connectors) My site also gets dusty. Not good on exposed connectors like on the PC bus. Repeater controllers are also engineered to take minor electrical discharge, like near-strike lightning. PC's are not.

Another is crash-protection. Repeater controllers generally have a watchdog timer to restart the CPU if the software crashes. I know a stock 8088 doesn't have a watchdog! (My wimpy 8088 crashes a lot!)

You already mentioned RF shielding. I cannot use my HT's around my PC. Most repeaters use preamps which could pick up even more PC's hash than my HT.

It can be done, but the challenges are many. I wouldn't expect to see any commercial solutions. Of course, running Commander Keen on a repeater controller does sound interesting. :-)

-Steve Schallehn KB0AGD
Kansas State University

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #41
